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LETTER DATED 1 JULY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I would like to draw your attention to a grave act of terrorism which was perpetrated in Jerusalem today by Palestinian terrorists. Initial investigations have revealed the following:

Around 7 a.m. local time, Egged bus number 25 pulled in to a bus stop, where several passengers, among them three Palestinians, boarded the bus. A few minutes later, as the bus proceeded along its route at the northern entrance to Jerusalem, at least two of the Palestinians pulled out weapons. The driver then halted the bus, opened the doors and shouted to the passengers to leave the bus immediately. He turned and charged one of the terrorists, who opened fire and hit the driver twice in the legs. The terrorists, who were armed with grenades as well, then began shooting indiscriminately at the passengers on the bus. Several passengers were wounded, including one woman who was severely injured. Also wounded in the gunfire was the third Palestinian, a resident of Gaza and a wanted fugitive, who was struck in the head by a bullet. At this stage, his involvement in the terrorist act which was perpetrated is being investigated.

The terrorists then got off the bus and commandeered a car being driven by a woman, whom they took hostage and held at gunpoint. The terrorists drove the car in the direction of Bethlehem, randomly shooting at innocent passers-by. After driving for some distance, the car approached a checkpoint manned by Israeli security forces and slowed down. The woman who was being held hostage by the terrorists in the car attempted to flee. The terrorists shot her to death on the road after she had jumped from the vehicle. The security forces then opened fire on the terrorists. The car exploded, apparently due to the grenades and other explosives which were in it, and the two terrorists died.

The attack described above is yet another example of the terrorism which continues to target Israel. The terrorists have once again demonstrated that they will stop at nothing. They kill Jews and they kill Arabs, and they are trying to kill the peace process itself, which is their main target.

Israel will continue to combat terrorism. At the same time, despite the provocations and the pain, Israel will continue to do its utmost to make

progress towards peace. Our commitment to peace remains unshakeable, and it will not be weakened by acts of terrorism directed against us.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Gad YAACOBI
Ambassador